

Reflection 2: Student Progress Report

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Company:	ZS Associates
Department/Team:	Software Development
Project Name:	Incentive Compensation

1. Brief description of the project:

I have been working on a project that tackles what ZS likes to call EP or Emerging Pharma. We call it IC or Incentive Compensation. The project is an attempt to make affordable offerings to pharma companies that are just starting or are in the startup stage. So, rather than buying the entire ZAIDYN offering (which is a Platform-as-a-Service offering by ZS), these companies can try this lightweight offering by ZS to decide if it solves their business requirement or not. The application, which is called – IC in a box, has generic algorithms which can be hyper-tuned to make their own company specific needs, and see if that algorithm comes works for the given use case.

2. Work done and progress made since Report 1:

I was responsible for coordinating with the business teams and gathering requirements that might make this project successful. Furthermore, we wanted to make this project as an integrable module which could be plugged to the ZS infrastructure without much external effect. The way I ended up achieving that was using the existing backend architecture of the ZS platform and creating a comprehensive web application (which was a configurator application) using Angular. The backend was built using GraphQL.

3. Problems encountered:

There were 2 main problems that were significant to overcome.

- The backend was built on serverless lambda and hence it was facing cold starts and time outs.
- The error that was shown in the frontend was not able propagated to the frontend and hence, this required that I would have to go to the backend and look into the CloudWatch logs to identify what the error actually was.